

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1872.

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**REPORT**

*On the Sanitary Condition*

OF THE

WESTBURY URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT,

*For the Year 1902.*

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Presented to the Westbury Urban District Council by

**WALTER H. REED,**

Medical Officer of Health of the Westbury Urban

Sanitary Authority.

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# WESTBURY URBAN DISTRICT.

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## REPORT

of the Medical Officer of Health on the Sanitary Condition of the  
Westbury Urban District for the Year 1902.

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*To the Chairman and Members of the Westbury Urban District  
Council.*

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GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present to you my Annual Report on the Sanitary Condition of the Town of Westbury and its District.

The area of the district is 3528 acres.

The Population, according to the 1901 census, is 3,300.

The Births registered during the year were: males, 39; females, 30; Total, 69.

The Birth-rate per 1000 of the population is 20·9.

The Deaths registered during the year were: males, 27; females, 20; Total, 47.

The Death-rate per 1000 of the population is 14·2.

Six deaths of Infants under the age of one year have occurred. This is equal to infant mortality at the rate of 86·9 for the year.

Twenty cases of Infectious Diseases were notified to me during the year, viz: six of Erysipelas, and fourteen Scarlet Fever. There were no deaths from any infectious disease.

The cases of Erysipelas were not of an epidemic character, but separate isolated cases of a mild type.

The Scarlet Fever cases also were not of an epidemic character, occurring at intervals during the year. These cases occurred in ten separate houses. Every case was kept as isolated as circumstances would permit, and every house was afterwards disinfected with Sulphur Dioxide.

Of the deaths that occurred Heart Disease was by far the most prevalent (ten cases). Then Bronchitis and Cancer (five each). Pneumonia (three cases). The rest were mostly of old age and a few young children. There were fourteen deaths of persons over eighty years of age.

In my report of last year I mentioned that the Council had not undertaken Public Scavenging. Although Ashpits and accumulations of refuse, and the emptying of Privy Vaults, are looked after as much as possible, yet the system is very unsatisfactory.

Since the Waterworks have been established I have taken thirty samples of the water formerly used by the inhabitants and analysed them; seventeen of these I condemned as being quite unfit for domestic purposes. In all cases where the water was condemned the owners have laid on the water from the mains. There are now 502 houses supplied by the water mains in the district.

No new Drainage Scheme has been carried out, but several old drains have been renewed and put into an efficient condition to the satisfaction of your Sanitary Inspector.

The Slaughter Houses, Dairies, and Cowsheds have been systematically supervised by the Sanitary Inspector, as well as the Workshops and Bakehouses, which have been periodically cleansed.

During the past year the whole district has been healthy. No epidemic of any serious character has occurred. No Measles, and only a few cases of Whooping Cough. Epidemic Influenza at the commencement of the year was much less severe than in previous years.

I have the honour to be

Your obedient Servant,

WALTER H. REED, M.O.H.

February 4th, 1903.



Table 1.—Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1902 and previous Years.

Year.	Population estimated to middle of each Year.	Births.		Deaths under One Year of age.		Deaths at all Ages.		Nett Deaths at all Ages	
		Number.	Rate.*	Number.	Rate per 1000 Births Registered.	Number.	Rate.*	Number.	Rate.*
1900	3337	82	24.5	17	207.3	68	20.3	68	20.3
1901	3300	66	20.0	7	106	66	20.0	66	20.0
Averages for years 1900-1901	3316	74	22.2	12	156	67	20.1	67	20.1
1902	3300	69	20.9	6	86.9	47	14.2	47	14.2

\* Rates calculated per 1000 of estimated population.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water).....3528

Total population at all ages.....3300 }  
Number of inhabited houses..... 899 } At Census of 1901.  
Average number of persons per house.....3.7

Institutions within the District receiving sick and infirm persons from outside the District.....Union Workhouse.  
Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the District.....None.  
Other Institutions, the deaths in which have been distributed among the several localities in the District.....None.  
Is the Union Workhouse within the District?.....Yes.

Table 2.—Vital Statistics of Separate Localities in 1902 and previous Years.

Name of Locality.	Year.	Population estimated to middle of each Year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 Year.
WESTBURY ...	1900	3337	82	68	17
	1901	3300	66	66	7
	Averages of Years 1900 to 1901	3318	74	67	12
	1902	3300	69	47	6

Table 3.—Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1902.

Notifiable Disease.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.						
	At all Ages	At Ages.					
		Under 1.	1 to 5	5 to 15.	15 to 25	25 to 65.	65 and upwards.
Erysipelas ...	6	..	...	...	...	6	...
Scarlet Fever ...	14	...	2	6	6	...	...
TOTALS ...	20	...	2	6	6	6	...

Table 4.—Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1902.

Causes of Death.	DEATHS IN WHOLE DISTRICT AT SUBJOINED AGES.						
	All Ages.	Under 1 Year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.
Epidemic influenza	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
Other tubercular diseases	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
Cancer, malignant disease	5	...	...	...	...	1	4
Bronchitis	5	...	1	...	...	...	4
Pneumonia	3	1	...	...	...	...	2
Other diseases of Respiratory organs...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
Premature birth	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
Heart Diseases	10	...	...	...	...	2	8
Suicides	1	...	...	...	...	1	...
All other causes	19	3	...	...	...	8	8
All causes	47	6	1	...	...	12	28

## URBAN DISTRICT OF WESTBURY.

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*Sanitary Inspector*—Mr. FREDERICK JENKINS.

*Address*—Laverton Institute.

*Whether whole time devoted to duties of Sanitary Inspector  
or not?* No.

*Date of last Re-appointment*—3rd September, 1902.

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### Summary of Work done in Sanitary Inspector's Department, during year ending 31st December, 1902.

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#### *Prevention of Infectious Disease under direction of Medical Officer of Health.*

No. of Cases inquired into	...	...	14
No. of Houses Disinfected and Cleansed	...	...	10

#### *Houses.*

No. erected	...	...	...	7
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#### *Overcrowding.*

No. of Cases abated	...	...	...	4
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#### *House Drains.*

No. Laid or Re-laid	...	...	...	17
No. Cleansed, Trapped, and Ventilated	...	...	...	12
No. of Defective Waste Pipes rectified	...	...	...	3
No. of Insanitary Lavatories, Sinks, and Urinals rectified	...	...	...	10

#### *Water Closets.*

No. of additional W.C.'s provided	...	...	...	1
No. Repaired, Ventilated, and supplied with Flush Cisterns	...	...	...	26

#### *Privies and Ashpits.*

No. of additional Privies and Ashpits provided	...	...	...	4
No. converted to W.C.'s or Slop-Closets	...	...	...	1
No. converted to Pail-Closets	...	...	...	8
No. Repaired	...	...	...	16

#### *Scavenging.*

The Authority have not yet  
undertaken the Scavenging of  
the District.

#### *Smoke Nuisances.*

No. under observation	...	...	...	1 complaint received
No. abated	...	...	...	Investigation furnished no grounds for action



*Water Supply.*

No. of Houses supplied	...	...	...	277 plus 38 omitted in last record 315, making total of houses supplied with water from Town Mains 502
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*Slaughter Houses.*

No. Registered or Licensed	...	...	2 Registered and 2 Licensed.
No. regularly Inspected	...	...	4
No. Cleansed and Repaired	...	...	4 Periodically White Limed.

*Dairies and Cowsheds.*

No. of Persons Engaged in Milk Trade now on Register and under Supervision	...	9
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*Factories and Workshops and Bakehouses.*

No. under Inspection	...	...	Factories, 5 ; Workshops, 18 ; Bakehouses, 10.
No. of Insanitary Conditions dealt with as Nuisances	...	...	1

*Food.*

No. of Seizures as Unfit for Consumption	...	Supervised burial of one Sheep as precaution.
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*Animals kept so as to be a Nuisance.*

No. of Cases of Removal on Notice	...	1
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*Accumulation of Offensive Refuse.*

No. of Removals	...	5
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*Legal Proceedings.*

No. taken	...	1, Slaughtering on Unlicensed Premises.
No. of Convictions obtained	...	1

*Clerical Work.*

No. of Notices served	...	75 Statutory Notices.
No. of Notices complied with	...	74
No. of Notices outstanding	...	1

